

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of selectively forwarding a file to a consumer of the file,
the method including the steps of:

5 retrieving the file from a server;

evaluating the file to determine whether resources required for
utilization of the file are available

forwarding the file to the consumer when said resources are
available; and

10 forwarding a message corresponding to the file to the consumer of
the file when the resources are unavailable.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of evaluating said file
includes a step of assessing whether network resources are available to
15 transport said file.

3. The method of claim 2 wherein said step of assessing further
includes determining whether a channel with appropriate quality of
service is available for transporting said file.

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4. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of evaluating said file includes a step of assessing communications unit resources required for utilization of said file.

5 5. The method of claim 4 wherein said step of assessing said communications unit resources includes determining one of a size of the file, a graphic content of the file, a post transport processing capacity corresponding to the file, and a display capability required for the file.

10 6. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of forwarding said message corresponding to the file includes forwarding a message indicating that appropriate resources are unavailable and asking the consumer whether one of the file and an address for the file should be saved for later consumption.

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7. The method of claim 6 further including a step of forwarding a message that provides a choice of locations for storing said one of the file and said address for the file.

8. The method of claim 6 further including triggering a reminder corresponding to said file for the consumer at a communications unit and removing said reminder when said file has been accessed.

5 9. A communications device for retrieving files from a network, the communications device comprising in combination;

a transceiver for interfacing to a radio access network;

a user input output (I/O) including a display; and

a controller, coupled to said transceiver and said user I/O, further

10 comprising a browser that operates to;

request a file located at a network server,

receive the file when resources for utilization of the file are available, and

receive a message corresponding to the file when said

15 resources are unavailable.

10. The communications device of claim 9 wherein said message is coupled to said display and offers a choice of saving one of said file and an address for said file.

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13. A gateway operating to selectively forward files to a communications device, the gateway comprising in combination:

a first port arranged to communicate with the communications device;

5 a second port arranged to communicate with a server; and

a controller, coupled to said first port and to said second port, operating as an agent for the communications device for;

retrieving a file from said server;

evaluating said file to determine whether resources required

10 for utilization of said file are available;

forwarding said file to the communications device when said resources are available; and

forwarding a message corresponding to said file to the communications device when the resources are unavailable.

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14. The gateway of claim 13 wherein evaluating said file includes assessing whether radio network resources are available to transport said file.

15. The gateway of claim 14 wherein said assessing further includes determining whether a channel with appropriate quality of service is available for transporting said file.

- 5 16. The gateway of claim 13 wherein said evaluating said file includes a step of assessing communications device resources required for utilization of said file.

- 10 17. The gateway of claim 16 wherein said step of assessing said communications device resources includes determining one of a size of said file, a graphic content of said file, a post transport processing capacity corresponding to said file, and a display capability required for said file.

- 15 18. The gateway of claim 13 wherein said forwarding said message corresponding to said file includes forwarding a message indicating that appropriate resources are unavailable and asking whether one of the file and an address for the file should be saved.

19. The gateway of claim 18 further operating to forward a message that provides a choice of locations for storing said one of the file and said address for the file.

5 20. The gateway of claim 18 further operating to trigger a reminder corresponding to said file at the communications device and removing said reminder when said file has been received.

21. The gateway of claim 18 further operating to trigger a reminder
10 corresponding to said file at a second communications device.

22. The gateway of claim 21 wherein said reminder includes sending an email too said second communications device, said email including a URL for said file.

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